

DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH CENTER • 815 SECOND AVENUE • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017

er H. Boyd, Press Officer Drew Dearnaley, Assistant Press Officer

Telephone: (212) 867-8400

80082 March 13, 1980

BISHOP TUTU'S PASSPORT IS LIFTED

NEW YORK -- The archbishop's mail is allegedly tampered with. A bishop's pasport is lifted and a banned priest faces a harsh jail term as the racist South African republic lashes out against growing Christian opposition to its apartheid policies.

In the latest incident, the Rt. Rev. Desmond Tutu, general secretary of the South Africa Council of Churches and former Anglican Bishop of Lesotho, was forced to surrended his passport on orders of the Interior Department. The action took place shortly after he had expressed outrage at a 69-month prison sentence imposed on the Rev. David Russell for violating the terms of his banning order.

Bishop Tutu's organization has also recently sponsored a conference on racism at which black delegates issued a demand that the Churches take a greater lead in the fight against apartheid or risk seeing the formation of a "black confessing, militant Church."

Describing himself as "but one of the casualties" of the struggle against apartheid, the black prelate said, "This is intended to stop us from speaking the truth, but I owe my allegiance to Jesus Christ. I will speak as I believe he commands. I will speak for justice and reconciliation."

"Overseas people will still be able to hear us, as they are able to read and write and will also be paying us visits," he said. "They will know what is happening. This is an incredible erosion on individual freedom, particularly when it is being done to people who are pleading for a peaceful solution to our problem."

sdi

DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

HORSE DAY CHURCH

THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE

STATE OF THE PARTY OF

NAME OF TAXABLE

ENTER SECTION

An included a property of the contract of the

CHARLES BY AN ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE PA

AND REAL PROPERTY AS ARE DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AS A PARTY

The state of the s

The second secon

Father Russell, whose sentence Bishop Tutu called "vicious...even within South Africa," was sentenced for attending the December meeting of Provincial Synod to which he had been elected. A banned person is not permitted to leave his district, speak, write or be part of any assembly. Fifty-seven months of the sentence were suspended and he is currently at liberty -- although remaining under the ban -- while the rest is appealed.

Upon learning of the sentence, the Most Rev. Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury, stated, "A good and honest man has been put in prison for a Christian stand. Whenever that happens to anyone in the world, I will want him to know that he has my support and my prayers."

It was shortly after the synod meeting that a London newspaper reported that Archbishop Bill Burnett, Primate of the Church of South Africa, was on a list of people whose telephones were tapped and whose mail was tampered with. During his six-year primacy -- and before in various sees -- Archbishop Burnett has spoken strongly against apartheid and helped Anglicans maintain a strong stand against the policies.

#

DP, DX

15 15 1600

Freder bones, " was real many for an another that the policy of Provincial Stand Printers, " for a real to some the form of the stand of the sound o

Cantervery, starred, "a good and houses man has been put to better formate, armivabure of Cantervery, starred, "a good and houses man has been put to be a Carter an cause Where for that happens to appene to the world. I'vi'd want now as been blue to had my support and my grayers."

A CONTROL OF THE COURT OF THE STAND OF THE COURT ACTES, was on a list of pages of the control of the Control of Court action of the Court action of the Court action of the Court action of the control o

MA 1550